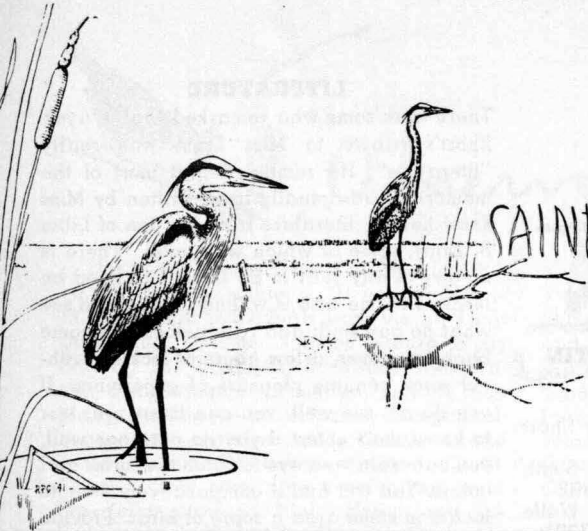




# SAINT LOUIS BIRD CLUB

## BULLETIN

VOL. 13, No. 5

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1944

### ALLURING ALASKA

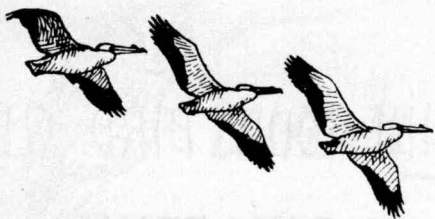
America's last frontier, land of infinite variety, myriad wildlife, and magnificent scenery . . . Alaska! This is the treat in store for us when W. F. Kubichek of Chicago presents his new all-color motion picture, "Alluring Alaska" on the evening of November 28. So popular have been his past programs that this marks the third consecutive year he has appeared under the auspices of the St. Louis Bird Club. Long one of the country's most ardent and well trained conservationists, W. F. Kubichek is, at present, Chief of the Section of Visual Information, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Several years ago, the greater challenge of hunting with a camera rather than a gun became evident to him. How he has accepted the challenge is vividly portrayed in his latest film. Against a back-drop of glaciers, beautiful islands, waterfalls, and wilderness forests, Mr. Kubichek has caught the Eskimo at work and play . . . trout and herring fishing, wolf and beaver hunting, and seal skinning; brief glimpses into the lives of porcupines, mountain goats, caribou, fox, and the largest carnivore on earth, the Alaskan brown bear; and birds, birds, and more birds . . . snow and emperor geese, brant, spectacled eider and old-squaw ducks, kittiwakes, murre, blue grouse, ptarmigan, curlews, and many more. The film is highlighted by spectacular shots of a hump-backed whale completely out of the water in giant leaps, close-ups of a sea lion herd and sea otter, the king crab, and a reindeer round-up. "Alluring Alaska" promises to be excellent fare, so reserve Tuesday, November 28 at Soldan High School. 8 P.M. FREE and open to the public.

### ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR.

On January 4, Audubon Wildlife Screen Tours will bring to our platform once again the self-styled "Prowler of the Swamps", Alexander Sprunt, Jr. and his all-color motion picture "Wonders of the Southern Wilderness". Formerly curator of the noted museum of Charleston, North Carolina and now Southern Representative of the National Audubon Society, Mr. Sprunt has devoted himself to studies of wildlife and conservation. For many years, he supervised the work of the Audubon Wardens and organized field trips of the Audubon Wildlife Tours in the great sanctuary areas of the south. Few persons know as he does the forests and waterways, the swamps and prairies. It is from these beautiful, virginal, and seldom seen spots . . . Lake Okeechobee, Kissimmie Prairie, Chernier Au Tigre, and the Louisiana coastal marshes, barren Texas beaches, and the Florida Everglades . . . that he has drawn an excitably alive and extremely vivid record of little known wildlife. High spots of the program include shots of grotesque "antediluvian" roseate spoonbills, limpkin, exotic snowy egret, droll burrowing owls, the mating dance of the Florida crane, Bullock's oriole, and the vermilion flycatcher. You will enjoy studies of water hyacinth in bloom, a tree snail, Spanish moss and palmettos, the Seminole Indians, winterberry in bloom along the Rio Grande, the painted bunting, black skimmers, reddish egret, a porpoise rolling through the coastal waters, and muskrat houses in Louisiana. "Wonders of the Southern Wilderness" will provide good birding on the night of Thursday, January 4, 1945 at St. Louis University Auditorium. 8 P.M. FREE.



W. F. Kubichek



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**ST. LOUIS BIRD CLUB BULLETIN**  
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**L. R. ERNST MEMORIAL**

Eighteen hundred people crowded Soldan High School on the evening of October 24th to pay tribute to their late friend, Miss L. R. Ernst. Luther Ely Smith, Club Vice-President, served as Chairman; Cleve and Ruth Grant of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, presented an all-color film on a very apropos subject, "Friends in Fur and Feathers"; Wayne Short, Club President, and Assistant to the President of the National Audubon Society, gave a stirring memorial address; and Superintendent of Instruction, Philip J. Hickey, spoke of Miss Ernst in this fashion: "Miss Ernst was education's true friend. The traits of character that made her a great ornithologist were dominant in her school life. She knew the value of integrity because her opinions on bird life were built upon the honesty of nature. She knew the virtues of hard work and patience because her whole extra-curricular life was vigorous and painstaking. Miss Ernst knew the problem of the individualization of instruction and the worth of each person for his own sake for she knew that while birds might be birds, the species and their characteristics make for different life situations and attainments. She knew that good health, physical exercises, and wholesome recreation make the strong bodies which are needed for vigorous citizenship because she lived such a life in her work. She knew the advantages of democratic life with all of its implications and all of its responsibilities because in the class room and in the field she lived that type of life. Truly Miss Ernst was a better educator because she was a great naturalist."

**LITERATURE**

There were some who remarked that Wayne Short's tribute to Miss Ernst was really "literature". He reminded that most of the memorial had actually been written by Miss Ernst herself, literature from the pen of Lillie R. Ernst, some of which we quote: "There is no day of any year in St. Louis that need be birdless to one who is willing to go out to see what he can find; and rarely does one come back from even a few hours of looking without some genuine pleasure of experience. If you do not see well, you can train your ear to know their notes; if you do not hear well, you can train your eye to catch the forms and colors. You will find it comparatively easy to locate in some area a score of birds. Provide your self with an illustrated book, preferably colored. The Saint Louis Public Library has a very fine and satisfactory list of bird books for you to use or refer to. But if you can possibly afford it, get your own book. When not out-of-doors, look at the pictures, look and look again, to get some patterns fixed in your mind. If you can afford it, own an opera glass or field glass; any power will help. Then when you sight a bird, out-of-doors, keep on looking at it. Don't do all your birding with your feet or with your mouth. Quick movements of any sort disturb a bird. Work slowly towards him, with the least movement of fluttering garments, and you can often get very close. Enjoy him, of course, but analyze him for size, colors, striking markings, kind of bill, proportions of body and call notes or song. Get everything before you try to hunt his name either in your head or in your book. Look, look, and look again, is the best procedure. Make notes of these observations; then use your book. If you have trouble with your identifications, get in touch with the bird people at the Zoo, or some member of the St. Louis Bird Club or of the Webster Groves Nature Study Society. There is a generous camaraderie in the bird lovers of the world; you'll find them ready to give you the best they have. Let no one turn you away from becoming a "birder" by calling you sentimentalist or a slow sport. I know of nothing that will quicken the senses so keenly, nothing that demands greater alertness, or calls for prompter analysis of observed data. It keeps the head up, the eyes clear, the ear quick to catch the lightest sounds. Like all work in observing activities of living things, every hour holds potentially new knowledge and new understandings of the relation of life to its surroundings."



# Observations



This year's Spring Census on May 14 total- ed 152 species within a 50 mile radius of St. Louis. 150 individuals from the St. Louis Bird Club, Webster Groves Nature Study Society, The Principia, Rockwoods Reserva- tion, Trail Rangers of America, and the Pere Marquette League participated. Exceptional- ly good finds were two Ruddy Turnstones and a Long-billed Dowitcher observed in St. Charles. Two other fine observations were the Yellow-crowned Night Heron and the Red-breasted Nuthatch. Wayne Short ob- served the most species, 108. Richard Reichle, 12, was a close second with 106. Here is the fine list: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, E. Green Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow- crowned Night Heron, American Bittern, Least Bittern, Common Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Shoveller, Wood Duck, Lesser Scaup Duck, Ruddy Duck, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red- shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Bob-white, King Rail, Sora, American Coot, Killdeer, Semi-palmated Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Woodcock, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yel- low-legs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sand- piper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Chuck-will's-widow, Whip-poor-will, Night Hawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, E. Hairy Woodpecker, N. Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, N. Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Least Flycatcher, E. Wood Pewee, Olive-sided Fly- catcher, Prairie Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, N. Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Eastern Crow, Black-capped Chick- adee, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nut- hatch, House Wren, Bewick's Wren, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mocking- bird, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Robin, Wood Thrush, Olive-backed Thrush, Gray- cheeked Thrush, Willow Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby- crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Migrant

Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Bell's Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, N. Parula Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-poll Warbler, N. Prairie Warbler, W. Palm Warbler, Oven- bird, N. Water-Thrush, Louisiana Water- Thrush, Kentucky Warbler, Mourning War- bler, Northern Yellow-throat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson's Warbler, Canada Warbler, American Redstart, English Sparrow, Euro- pean Tree Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern Mead- owlark, Eastern Red-wing, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Bronzed Grackle, Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardi- nal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel, Purple Finch, Eastern Goldfinch, Red-eyed Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, E. Field Sparrow, Mississippi Song Sparrow.

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One of the few areas yielding a bountiful supply of shore birds this fall has been the region around the Davis St. Ferry Road be- tween the Mississippi River and Dupo, Illinois. A few of the species observed by Club mem- bers during Sept.: Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, American Egret, Greater Yellow-legs, Lesser Yellow-legs. In October: an Avocet, Red-backed Sandpiper, 20 Black-bellied Plover, 15 Sanderling, 2 Wilson's Snipe, 16 Snowy Egret, 500 American Egret, Greater Yellow-legs, Lesser Yellow-legs, Black- crowned Night Heron, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, and Semipalmated Sand- piper. This would be an impressive list with- out the presence of such unusual birds as the Snowy Egret, Red-backed Sandpiper, and the Sanderling, but to be headed by such a rare visitor as the Avocet makes it one of the most unusual observations we have recorded for some time.

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James Earl Comfort reports seeing many of the birds listed above in the same area. To these he adds Golden Plover and Long-billed Dowitcher. Three week-ends in a row during September and October he observed Sander- ling at Creve Coeur Lake.



# Who's Who?



Hats off to our hard working committee members, who have been making the wheels run smoothly during the past year. To you who are not aware of this loyal group, let this serve as an introduction. Ethel Von Hahn, chairman of the Membership Committee, has helping her; Helen O'Moran, Helen Henke, and Marie Fisher. Helen Einspanier, handling check-lists and stationery, is the Supply Committee. Marian Freer heads the Door Committee and is aided by Mildred Reese, Mrs. Drury, Cecelia Lehman, Beulah Bedell, Vivian Henry, Anne Bayha, and Billie McCord. The all-important Contact Committee is made up of Myron Northrup, prospect mailing list and organization contact; Billie McCord, national contact; Linus Hoffmeister, mailing posters and bulletins; and Mildred Reese, chairman of this splendid group, handling newspaper and radio publicity.

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We want to give special thanks to that untiring and most dependable Club member, Linus Hoffmeister, who sees to it that all of us receive our bulletins.

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We are pleased to record the following additions to and changes in the Bird Club membership from September 1st to October 24th: New Life Member: Alfred L. Shapleigh. New Sustaining Members: John H. Armbruster, Wm. W. Arnett, Jr., Charlotte Ballmann, Harriet Edna Beard, Mrs. Robert M. Bell, Mrs. Marion Blossom, Mrs. H. J. Butler, N. H. Ceaglake, Mrs. E. J. Costigan, Jr., Mrs. R. C. Day, Joseph Desloge, Arthur L. Dickie, Mrs. Auguste B. Ewing, Marcella Falvey, Ger-

trude Garvin, Harriet Gordon, Mrs. Norris B. Gregg, Jr., Eugene Francis Heil, S I/C USN-1, Mrs. H. C. Heink, Adolph B. Hill, Jr., G. Alex Hope, Mrs. Louis Kellerman, Susan Levy, Sheridan K. Loy, Mrs. Clinton H. McMillan, Elmer E. Moeller, Herbert F. Mueller, Mrs. Jane H. Newman, Laura Nolker, Mrs. C. D. Pantle, W. A. Pardue, Richard Reichle, Jr., Alma B. Rogers, Emily M. Schott, Elmer L. Schreiber, Oreon E. Scott, Dr. Omar R. Sevin, Mrs. Stephen R. Sheldon, Mrs. Arthur Sherwood, Claude Soto, Mrs. Ella D. Stifel, Clyde B. Still, Ella Stillahan, Mrs. Leah H. Stoker, Dr. G. V. Stryker, James R. Thayer, Charles J. Vosbrink, Mrs. C. Welz-miller, Mrs. A. O. Wilson. Changed from Active to Sustaining: Louise S. Barbee, H. E. Bradley, J. F. Bredehoeft, Dr. Jerome E. Cook, Alice Donnelly, Mrs. Henry P. Duncker, Mrs. Lewis B. Ely, Anita Erker, Roberta E. Foote, Dr. G. H. Klinkerfuss, Mrs. G. H. Klinkerfuss, Mrs. G. Loeffel, Francis Lutz, Mrs. Emma Pitthan, Antoinette Sommer, Mrs. D. C. Webber. New Active Members: Charles Barrioz, Leona J. Beckmann, Mrs. Jasper Blackburn, Paul W. Bode, M. F. Bowen, Avanelle Boyce, Clarice K. Breiding, Dr. Elizabeth Bryan, Mrs. H. L. Chase, Amy Childs, Dorothy Childs, Charles S. Coyle, Mrs. E. R. Cuendet, Mrs. N. E. Curtice, Arthur Dannacher, Edward Harry Dannacher, Mrs. M. R. F. de Penapozza, Catherine Dillon, Christine Duis, Mrs. Adele J. Elsner, A. F. Ewers, Mrs. O. W. Fick, Janet Ford, Stella Gaebler, Lillie W. Griot, Dr. C. A. Gundelach, Mrs. F. J. Haberthier, Hilda A. Hageman, Charlotte L. Hammerstein, K. C. Hequembourg, Pat Hopkins, Ethel Hugunin, Laura Janzow, Mrs. N. E. Jewell, David M. Jones, Herman L. Koenig, Carolyn Kramer, Mrs. O. H. Lanfersieck, Shirley Lanfersieck, Louise Langenohl, Mrs. Elizabeth Linstead, Mrs. Wm. A. Lockwood, Dr. Maurice J. Lonsway, Lillian A. Luebben, Peggy McCray, Mrs. L. E. Mahan, Mary Inez Mann, Mrs. Gene F. Messing, Clarke C. Miller, Mrs. Elmer E. Moeller, Sophie Mueller, Robert B. Nevins, Mrs. G. F. Newhard, Lillie Niehaus, Magdalen L. Pfeffer, Rebecca M. Pond, Ruth P. Proctor, Anton Roesch, Sr., Laura Rohlfing, Mrs. W. K. Roth, Ruth A. Sampson, Mrs. Paul Schinke, Stella K. Schmidt, Mrs. Elmer L. Schreiber, George Leonard Shultz, Henry W. Smith, Mrs. F. J. Taussig, Mrs. H. H. Tittmann, Winifred Tittmann, Ella M. Vornbrook, Adele Voss, Robert Watson, Mrs. Allen T. West, Mrs. R. H. Woltjen, Melvin Woody.

TO THE BIRD CLUB

BEST WISHES

FROM PURINA DOG CHOW